



MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

Maryland's Social Services Agency



MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release:

January 15, 2009

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MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES
TO OPEN 24-HOUR HOTLINE, INCIDENT COMMAND CENTER

BALTIMORE – In preparation for the expected record-breaking number of travelers in and around Maryland attending the presidential inauguration, the Maryland Department of Human Resources (DHR) will activate its emergency hotline and its 24-hour incident command center.

Travelers in Maryland who find themselves stranded, experience an emergency ranging from separation from family members to needing emergency shelter should call the DHR hotline at **1-888-756-7836**.

This emergency number will be staffed 24 hours a day beginning 9 a.m. on Saturday, January 17 through 4 p.m. on January 21. The hotline number rings into DHR's incident command center in Baltimore, MD.

DHR is one of dozens of agencies working cooperatively with the Maryland Emergency Management Agency in an effort to provide support services and to plan strategically for the nearly 2.5 million people expected to attend inaugural events.

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The Maryland Department of Human Resources is the state's social service provider serving 500,000 people in need each year. The agency collaborates with 24 local jurisdictions to provide foster care, adoption and protective services to children and temporary cash, food stamps and medical assistance to families. It also provides programs for homeless persons, refugees, migrant workers, victims of crime and women who are displaced, battered or assaulted. In terms of its annual budget, DHR is the fourth largest state agency.

- Martin O'Malley, Governor
- Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor
- Brenda Donald, Secretary